

MEXICO DECLARATION

PREAMBLE

The National Olympic Committees gathered at the General Assembly held in Mexico City on 7 and 8 November 1984 under the aegis of the Association of National Olympic Committees.

- CONSIDERING the wide range of problems facing the Olympic Movement today which constitutes a dangerous threat to the ethics and goals of Olympism ;
- TAKING into account the continuing problems facing the Olympic Movement and in particular considering in this regard the repeated cases of non-participation for various reasons.
- CONSIDERING the decisive role of the Olympic Games in safeguarding and preserving Olympism ;
- HAVING acknowledged the decision of the IOC to devote a special session to these issues on 1 and 2 December 1984;
- DESIRING to make an important contribution to the search for lasting solutions to the aforementioned problems ;
- CONVINCED of the need to strengthen unity and co-operation within the International Olympic Family.

debate during which representatives of the NOCs of the five continents expressed their viewpoints.

AGREED:

- to issue this declaration, entitled the MEXICO DECLARATION, expressing their viewpoints on :
 - the current situation of the Olympic Movement and
 - the future of the Olympic Games ;
- to submit for the consideration of the IOC certain questions to be explored at its special session scheduled for December 1984 in Lausanne, devoted to the future of the Olympic Games.

In issuing this Declaration, the NOC's express the hope that ANOC, as an instrument of dialogue and conciliation, may hold useful discussions with the IOC and the other members of the Olympic Family during which these recommendations and viewpoints will be taken fully into account.

After having analysed in depth this situation and following a lengthy



THE NATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEES

1. Emphatically proclaim their loyalty to the Olympic Charter and the Olympic ideals and confirm their intention to continue to respect the fundamental principles, the laws and by-laws contained therein.
2. REAFFIRM that the Olympic Games have always been the cornerstone of the Olympic Movement and as such merit special attention on the part of all members of the Olympic Family who, each in its sphere of competence, should encourage the celebration of the Games and protect them.
3. THEREFORE INVITE all members of ANOC to contribute to the success of, and participate in, the forthcoming Summer and Winter Games which are scheduled to be held in Seoul and Calgary in 1988, according to the decision taken by the IOC in September 1981 in

Baden-Baden. This should apply also to all futures Games.

4. RECOMMEND to the Organizing Committees of the 1988 Games that, for their part, they adopt all measures necessary to guarantee the proper organisation of the 1988 Games, in compliance with the relevant provisions in the Olympic Charter and Protocol.



AWARDS

On the occasion of the meetings in Mexico, Messrs. **Knolly Henderson** (TRI), past President of the NOC of Trinidad and Tobago, **Samuel Mbogo Kamau** (KEN), President of the Kenya Olympic Association (NOC) and member of the Executive Committee of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, and **Keith Evan Shervington** (JAM), President of the Jamaican Weightlifting Federation, received, from the President of the IOC, the insignia of the Olympic Order, which was conferred upon them by the 88th Session in Los Angeles last summer.

5. DECLARE that the opportunity to compete in the Olympic Games is the fundamental RIGHT of the athletes and therefore to guarantee this right is the fundamental DUTY of the NOCs and the other members of the Olympic Family, who should take all necessary steps to guarantee and facilitate this participation in conformity with the Olympic Charter.
6. EXPRESS THE HOPE that the NOCs, which constitute the foundation of the Olympic structure, will be given the opportunity to participate in the endeavours of the Commission charged with revising the Olympic Charter.
7. BELIEVE that Article 26 and its bye-laws should be revised in order to remedy the prevailing confusing situation over the interpretation of the eligibility codes, taking into account the pressures of top level sport but without losing sight of the cardinal virtues of the Olympic ethics.
8. ASK the IOC and ANOC, together with the individual NOCs, to undertake a campaign designed to make governmental authorities increasingly aware of the Olympic Movement, in order to foster the development of a strategy of co-operation, flexible enough to enable the NOCs to perform their work freely and autonomously and achieve the objectives of the Olympic Movement.
9. MAKE A FURTHER APPEAL TO THE IOC, in the future when awarding the Olympic Games to a specific city, that in addition to the customary criteria, they take special account of such factors as the political, economic and geographical situation and even socio-cultural factors so as to ensure optimum conditions for the maximum participation by NOCs.
10. UNDERLINE, in this respect, the advantages of establishing a mechanism of consultation and of participation in the decision with the NOCs prior to awarding the Games.
11. EXPRESS the desire that an ongoing co-operation be consolidated between the NOCs and OCOGs, so as to allow the NOCs to follow carefully the progressive stages of preparation of the Games and provide the OCOGs with useful advice which will be mutually beneficial.
12. APPEAL FOR THE VIGILANCE OF THE IOC regarding the growing trend toward the commercialisation of the Olympic Games, which is, at times, detrimental to the Olympic Family, and to recommend the steps aimed at :
 - the avoidance of abuses that are prejudicial to the Olympic ideals and spirit ;
 - ensuring that the resources generated by the Games, irrespective of their origin, be distributed rationally among the NOCs.
13. DRAW TO THE ATTENTION OF THE IOC the under-representation of certain parts of the world on this

body and urge them to take steps to remedy this matter by redressing the balance.

14. PROPOSE to the IOC that it increase the frequency of the Olympic Congresses, so as to adapt to the rapid evolution taking place in the world of sport.
15. REQUEST that ANOC make representations to the relevant International Federations urging them to exclude South Africa from membership, in line with the policy of the IOC, until that country renounces its policy of apartheid which is in contravention with the Olympic Charter.
16. PROPOSE that Olympic Solidarity define an emergency programme aimed at bringing special assistance to those developing countries in urgent need.
17. Based on the far-sighted and pertinent interventions made by the delegates at the General Assembly in Mexico, to entrust to the Executive Board, as a matter of urgency, the following tasks :
 - to define more precisely the aims and objectives of ANOC in the short and long term and also to develop a plan of action to realise its aims and objectives ;
 - to identify the steps needed to ensure the proper status of ANOC within the Olympic Family and especially in its relations with the IOC.
18. APPLAUD the good work of our President Mario Vázquez Raña which is reflected in the evident

progress made by ANOC in recent years.

19. NOTE WITH SATISFACTION the increased vitality of the Continental Associations and the positive manner in which they are reinforcing the effectiveness of their NOCs.
20. PAY TRIBUTE to the profound and continuing interest which President JUAN ANTONIO SAMARANCH takes in the National Olympic Committees and the dedicated manner in which he approaches the work and problems of the Olympic Movement.
21. DECLARE ourselves ready to spread the OLYMPIC MESSAGE, an element of peace, trusting that it will contribute to mutual understanding and better relationships between men.
22. CORDIALLY THANK the President and Members of the Mexican Olympic Committee for the warm welcome and hospitality given delegates during their stay in Mexico City.



*The
National Olympic
Committees*